

Farmers and Stockmen and Fruit and Truck Growers.' The text consists largely of well selected extracts from standard publications and addresses by the compiler and others. The bulletin will do a great good, reaching as it will many people in this vast state who do not see the economic publications of the National Government.

In this connection mention should also be made of Mr. Shiras' able publication on the 'Necessity for, and Constitutionality of the Migratory Bird Law.'¹ The whole subject is thoroughly discussed and attacks upon the law ably answered. Mr. Shiras was the author of the original bills that were presented to Congress and is therefore particularly well qualified to discuss the subject.—W. S.

Further Observations by Collinge on the Dispersal of Weed Seeds by Birds.—Prof. W. E. Collinge has continued his studies of the viability of weed seeds after passing through the alimentary canals of birds. The general results given in the present brief report² agree with those previously announced, namely, that a surprisingly large number of seeds do pass through the alimentary tracts of seed-eating birds in condition to germinate.

The special point made in the present paper, and a novel one it is, is succinctly stated in the following quotation: "it would appear that, in dry years, such birds as the rook, starling, house sparrow (and probably many other species) take in a much smaller quantity of grit and soil than in wet years, in consequence of which a larger percentage of weed seeds pass through the intestinal canal in an uninjured condition."—W. L. M.

Herman on Useful and Harmful Birds.—It is a proof of the great demand in European countries for a book on economic ornithology, as well as a tribute to Dr. Otto Herman, that his work (originally in Hungarian) has been translated into both German³ and English.⁴ The artist M. Titus Csörgey shares the honors as his spirited drawings illustrate all of the editions. Both of the translations contain additional figures and the text has in greater or less degree been adapted to local conditions. The English edition especially has thus been augmented, and properly is published as a collaborated work: authors, Otto Herman and J. A. Owen. While these books are fairly satisfactory manuals of European economic ornithology, they lack the definiteness and scientific detail that characterize American publications of a similar nature. This is merely a matter of style, however, as the basis of all of these books is the investigations of the Royal Hungarian Central Bureau of Ornithology which have included the examination of thousands of bird stomachs.—W. L. M.

¹ Necessity for and Constitutionality of the Act of Congress Protecting Migratory Birds. By George Shiras, 3d, pp. 1-99.

² Journ. Economic Biol. IX, No. 2, June, 1914, pp. 69-71.

³ Nutzen und Schaden der Vögel. Gera. 1903, 333 pp. 95 pls.

⁴ Birds useful and birds harmful. Manchester, 1909, 387 pp., 98 pls.